

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

DHA-02 SCCT-01 SY-05 /078 W  
----- 113924

R 122148Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3929  
INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, VE, UY

SUBJECT: FORMER VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO URUGUAY CLAIMS  
DIRECT GOU COMPLICITY IN EMBASSY KIDNAPPING INCIDENT,  
REVEALS LETTER FROM HUSBAND OF ALLEDGED VICTIM

REF: CARACAS 8258, CARACAS 8205, MONETVIDEO 2500, MONTEVIDEO 2493

SUMMARY. IN RAMBLING PRESS CONFERENCE, RAMOS TOLD CARACAS PRESS  
JULY 9 THAT GOU MOVED FIRST TO BREAK RELATIONS ON JULY 6 BEFORE  
HE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. HE ALSO SAID HE RECEIVED LETTER  
FROM ONE JOSE DIAZ, WHO CLAIMED TO BE THE HUSBAND OF THE KIDNAP  
VICTIM WHO STATED GOU POLICE HAD SEIZED HIS WIFE PRIOR TO EMBASSY  
INCIDENT. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY SO DIRECTLY, RAMOS CLEARLY  
IMPLIED DIAZ' LETTER WAS TRUE AND THAT GOU HAD LIED TO HIM AND  
TO VENEZUELA. RAMOS ALSO CITED NAMES OF GOU POLICE OFFICIALS  
HE CLAIMED WERE INVOLVED IN KIDNAPPING. HE ENDED HIS CONFERENCE  
BY SAYING WHAT IS IMPORTANT NOW IS TO TRY TO SAVE SRA.  
DIAZ' LIFE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN JULY 9 PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED WIDELY IN CARACAS  
PRESS, FORMER GOV AMBASSADOR TO URUGUAY JOSE RAMOS PRESENTED  
HIS CASE TO VENEZUELAN PUBLIC REGARDING EVENTS WHICH LED  
TO THE BREAK IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. RAMOS  
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SAID THAT URUGUAYAN POLICE OFFICIALS WERE DIRECTLY INVOLVED

IN THE KIDNAPPING OF THE WOMAN WHO SOUGHT ASYLUM. RAMOS SAID THAT FNU FONTANA, AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICIAL ADMITTED TO HIM THAT ONE OF HIS SUBORDINATES, SR. "BIONCINNI" WAS IN FACT THE PERSON WHO ENTERED THE PREMISES OF THE VENEZUELAN EMBASSY. RAMOS SAID FURTHER THAT BRONCINNI IS RELATED TO A CAPTAIN CASTIGLIONE OF THE URUGUAYAN POLICE. RAMOS ALSO ACCUSED TWO OTHER URUGUAYAN OFFICIALS OF HAVING BEEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED, OFFICER DALPER AND SUBCOMMISSIONER MARQUEZ.

2. AS PROOF OF THE DIRECT COMPLICITY OF THE GOV IN THIS AFFAIR, RAMOS DRAMATICALLY REVEALED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ONE JOSE DIAZ, MAILED ON JULY 1 FROM BUENOS AIRES IN WHICH DIAZ ACCUSED THE GOU OF HAVING SEIZED HIS WIFE, ELENA CANDIDA QUINTEROS ALMEDIA DE DIAZ, A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER, ON JUNE 25 AS A SUBVERSIVE. DIAZ ALSO SENT A PHOTO OF HIS WIFE WITH THE LETTER. DIAZ' LETTER CLAIMED THAT HE (DIAZ) HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM PEOPLE WHO SAW HIS WIFE BEING TAKEN AWAY BY THE POLICE. THUS, DIAZ SAID, THE GOU WAS LYING WHEN THEY CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE KIDNAPPING OF HIS WIFE ON THE GROUNDS OF THE GOV EMBASSY. DIAZ' LETTER ENDS WITH THE THOUGHT THAT THE AUTHOR REALIZES THAT VENEZUELA IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO SAVE THE LIFE OF HIS WIFE "WHICH IS WHAT YOUR DIGNITY AS VENEZUELAN AND LATINAMERICANS REQUIRES."

3. RAMOS RECOUNTED THAT ON JULY 5 HE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM PRESIDENT PEREZ ORDERING HIM TO INFORM GOU FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO THAT THE GOV WAS BREAKING RELATIONS WITH MONTEVIDEO. HOWEVER, RAMOS SAID HE WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE NEXT MORNING HE WAS INFORMED BY THE GOU DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL THAT HE AND HIS COUNSELOR WERE BEING DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA. RAMOS THEN SAID THAT WHAT IS IMPORTANT NOW IS TO SAVE THE WOMAN'S LIFE.

4. RAMOS ALSO SAID THAT ALL THE AMBASSADORS WHICH MET WITH THE PAPAL NUNCIO JULY 3 TO FORMULATE A DEMARCHE TO THE GOU AGREED WITH RAMOS' VIEWS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE PARAGUAYAN AND ARGENTINE AMBASSADORS. HE ALSO IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE U.S. AMBASSADOR "HESITATED A LITTLE" BEFORE AGREEING TO THE DEMARCHE.

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5. COMMENT: RAMOS' PRESENTATION WON HEADLINES IN LOCAL PRESS WHICH PLAYED STORY AS THOUGH THERE WAS CONCLUSIVE PROOF FROM RAMOS' STATEMENTS THAT GOU WAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THIS INCIDENT. HOWEVER, RAMOS, IN FACT DID NOT CATEGORICALLY STATE THAT SRA. DIAZ WAS THE PERSON SEIZED ON HIS EMBASSY'S PREMISES, ALTHOUGH HE CLEARLY LEFT THAT IMPLICATION.

6. AS REPORTED IN MONTEVIDEO 2479, RAMOS IS INDEED FIRMLY

CONVINCED THAT THE INTRUDER WAS A URUGUAYAN AGENT AND HE ATTEMPTED  
TO DEMONSTRATE THIS CONCLUSIVELY BY MEANS OF THE DIAZ LETTER AND  
PHOTO. HE UNDOUBTEDLY SUCCEEDED HERE, ALTHOUGH HIS PRESENTATION WAS  
NOT COMPLETE OR COGENT ENOUGH TO ALLOW AN OBJECTIVE THIRD PARTY  
TO NECESSARILY REACH THE SAME CONCLUSIONS ON THE BASIS OF WHAT HE  
TOLD THE PRESS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL ASYLUM, KIDNAPPING, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, VE, UY  
**To:** STATE  
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